

Docket No.: GR 98 P 3185

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SignatureMay 6, 2004
Date

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Manfred Meintker
Applic. No. : 09/665,452
Filed : September 19, 2000
Title : Method and Apparatus for Transferring an
Article Between Fluid-Filled Vessels
Examiner : Jack W. Keith - Art Unit: 3641

L E T T E R

Hon. Commissioner for Patents,
Alexandria, VA 22313

S i r :

The following Examiner's amendment is requested pursuant to a
telephone conversation with the Examiner on May 5, 2004.

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The Examiner is kindly requested to enter an Examiner's amendment to claim 1 of the instant application as shown below.

Claim 1 (currently-amended): A method for transferring an article, in particular a nuclear fuel element, the method which comprises:

providing a fluid-filled first vessel and a fluid-filled second vessel, the interiors of the vessels connected by a connecting element, the connecting element having a first part facing the first vessel and a second part facing the second vessel; and a transport device for moving the article through the connecting element;

maintaining a first fluid flow out of the first vessel into the first part of the connecting element;

maintaining a second fluid flow flowing out of the second vessel in a second part of the connecting element; and

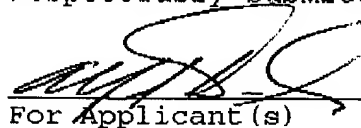
transporting the article through the connecting element with while simultaneously maintaining the first and second fluid flows ~~being maintained~~.

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If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition
for extension is herewith made.

Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect
to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner &
Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,


For Applicant(s)

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AKD:cgm

May 6, 2004

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